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SUMMARY STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON MATTERS OF WHICH THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS SEIZED AND ON THE STAGE REACHED IN THEIR CONSIDERATION

Addendum

Pursuant to rule 11 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General is submitting the following summary statement.

The list of items of which the Security Council is seized is contained in documents S/22110 of 28 January 1991 and S/22110/Add.3 of 1 February 1991.

During the week ending 16 February 1991, the Security Council took action on the following item:

The situation between Iraq and Kuwait (see S/21100/Add.30, S/21100/Add.31, S/21100/Add.32, S/21100/Add.33, S/21100/Add.36, S/21100/Add.37, S/21100/Add.38, S/21100/Add.42, S/21100/Add.43 and S/21100/Add.47)

In a letter dated 23 January 1991 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22135), the representatives of Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia to the United Nations requested, as the representatives of the States members of the Arab Maghreb Union, that an urgent meeting of the Security Council be convened to consider the grave situation in the Gulf region.

In a letter dated 24 January 1991 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22144), the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations requested that an immediate meeting of the Security Council be convened to examine the grave situation in the Gulf region.

In letters dated 23 and 25 January 1991 addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations (S/22138) and the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations (S/22147) respectively expressed support for the above-cited requests made by Yemen and by the States members of the Arab Maghreb Union.

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In a letter dated 28 January 1991 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22157), the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations, noting that the requests made by the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union, joined by the Sudan, Jordan and Yemen and by Cuba, were covered by the Council's provisional rules of procedure and by Articles of the Charter of the United Nations, the clarity and relevance of which were beyond question, requested that a formal meeting of the Security Council be convened as soon as possible to review the situation in the Gulf region.

The Security Council resumed its consideration of the item at its 2977th meeting, the first and public part of which (S/PV.2977 (Part I)) was held on 13 February 1991 on the basis of the above requests.

Following the adoption of the provisional agenda (S/Agenda/2977), the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a motion under rule 48 of the Security Council's provisional rules of procedure that the meeting be held in private, with the understanding that attendance and requests for participation would be treated in the normal manner for public meetings, that rule 51 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council would not be invoked and that the verbatim record of the meeting would be circulated in all the working languages as an unrestricted document in accordance with rule 49 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council. Following a procedural discussion, the Security Council adopted the United Kingdom proposal that the meeting of the Security Council be continued in private by a vote of 9 votes in favour, to 2 against (Cuba and Yemen) with 4 abstentions (China, Ecuador, India and Zimbabwe).

Accordingly, the meeting was suspended and the agenda for the 2977th meeting was issued in two parts to reflect the public character of the first part of the meeting (S/Agenda/2977 (Part I)) and the private character of the resumed meeting (S/Agenda/2977 (Part II) and Rev.1).

The meeting was resumed in private on 14 February 1991 (S/PV.2977 (Part II) (closed)) and there were three further suspensions and two resumptions on 15 February 1991 (S/PV.2977 (Part II) (closed-resumption 1)) and on 16 February 1991 (S/PV.2977 (Part II) (closed-resumption 2)).

On 14 February 1991, the President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representatives of Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, at their request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote in accordance with relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

In response to the request dated 13 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations (S/22220), in his capacity as current Chairman of the Islamic Group at the United Nations, the Security Council extended an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to Mr. A. Engin Ansay, Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the United Nations, on 14 February 1991.

In response to the request dated 13 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations (S/22221), the Security Council extended an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to Mrs. Arlette Laurent, chargé d'affaires of the delegation of the Commission of the European Communities, on 14 February 1991.

On 16 February 1991, the President drew attention to documents S/22231, S/22232 and S/22233, containing the texts of three draft resolutions submitted by Cuba.

Draft resolution S/22231 reads as follows:

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 660 (1990), 661 (1990), 662 (1990), 664 (1990), 665 (1990), 666 (1990), 667 (1990), 669 (1990), 670 (1990), 674 (1990), 677 (1990) and 678 (1990),

Guided by the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as set out in Chapter I of the Charter of the United Nations,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 29 of the Charter of the United Nations, which provides that "the Security Council may establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions",

Acting in accordance with Rule 28 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Security Council, which states that "the Security Council may appoint a commission or committee or a rapporteur for a specified question",

Deeply concerned by the war situation existing in the Gulf region, which endangers international peace and security, and determined to put an end to the hostilities as soon as possible,

1. Decides to establish an Ad Hoc Committee, composed of all members of the Security Council, to examine the situation currently prevailing in the Gulf region and consider possible formulas for halting armed actions and achieving a peaceful settlement of the conflict on the basis of the above-mentioned resolutions of the Security Council, thus avoiding further loss of life and destruction;

2. Decides also that the Ad Hoc Committee referred to in paragraph 1 shall begin its work immediately after the adoption of the present resolution;

3. Decides further that the Ad Hoc Committee shall report back to the Security Council on its findings and on any specific proposals which may have been made not later than 28 February 1991.

Draft resolution S/22232 reads as follows:

The Security Council,

Deeply concerned by the state of war existing in the Gulf and, above all, by the losses of human life and the destruction of material property caused by the mass bombings suffered by the cities of Iraq,

Committed to restoring the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait,

Considering its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, as established in Article 24 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that it is its duty to use all peaceful means for the settlement of international conflicts and differences in order to maintain international peace and security and "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war", as proclaimed in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Demands that the bombings of the cities of Iraq be immediately halted and requests that the negotiations for seeking a peaceful resolution of the conflict be immediately intensified without further resort to force;

2. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

Draft resolution S/22233 reads as follows:

The Security Council,

Reaffirming the need to take steps with a view to reaching a peaceful solution to the present situation in the Gulf,

Committed to restoring the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait and to avoiding further losses of life and material property,

Considering the role which the Secretary-General has played in the elimination and avoidance of situations of conflict and the role he has to play in achieving a peaceful solution to the situation of war prevailing in the Gulf,

Considering also the efforts which the Secretary-General made to that end before hostilities erupted on 16 January 1991,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to renew his good offices and mediation efforts without delay, on the basis of his statement to the press of 15 January 1991, and to report back to the Council as soon as possible;

2. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

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In accordance with the decision taken by the Council at its 2977th (Part I) meeting on 13 February 1991 (see S/22110/Add.6), on 23 February 1991, the second and closed part of the 2977th meeting of the Security Council was resumed for the third time [S/PV.2977 (Part II) (closed-resumption 3)] to continue consideration of the item, following which the meeting was suspended.

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